

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MILLOM

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

K.J. Thomson	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.M. Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.
J. Hankey	Assoc.M.Inst.H.E., A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H. Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.
J.H. Dawson	M.R.San.I. Additional Sanitary Inspector.
C. Newton	A.R.San.I. Clerk to Sanitary Inspector.
Miss B. Jenkinson	Clerk to Sanitary Inspector
G. Hebdon	General Assistant to Sanitary Inspector.
Miss J. Gibson	Medical Officer's Clerk for Rural District Council and County work.

Health Department,
52a, Lapstone Road,
Millom.

August, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Millom.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical
Officer of Health for the year 1950.

The population of the area, as estimated by the
Registrar General, was 13070, showing an increase of 400
over the 1949 figure. This increase was due chiefly to
developments at Seascale and, in my opinion, was an
underestimate of the actual position.

The Birth Rate of 20.7 compared with 18.9 in 1949
and compares favourably with the figure of 15.8 for England
and Wales.

The Death Rate of 12.1 showed a slight fall but
was above the England and Wales figure of 11.6.

The Infantile Mortality Rate (i.e. the number of
deaths of infants under one year per 1000 live births)
jumped to the high figure of 66, and compares unfavourably
with the figure of 30 for the country as a whole.

As stated in my 1949 report, considerable
fluctuation in the Infantile Mortality Rate must be expected
in an area such as Millom Rural District with its
comparatively small number of total births. Nevertheless,
such a decided increase was unexpected, especially in view
of the general downward tendency throughout the country.
Fuller details are given within the body of the report.

Again, diseases of the Heart and Circulatory
System, including Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System,
were the chief causes of death. Together they accounted
for nearly 40% of all deaths. Malignant growths (Cancer)
accounted for 10% of all deaths, showing a welcome decrease
on the figure of 16% in 1949.

The notification of infectious diseases remained
low during the year. Despite the high incidence of

Poliomyelitis throughout the country, only one case occurred in this area.

During the year progress was made in the building of Council houses, although the numbers under construction were still far short of the demand - a condition which is general throughout the country.

Of the 36 houses commenced in the Queen's Park Extension Scheme, 24 were completed and occupied by the end of the year.

In the Sattle Street and Salthouse Road sites, 52 houses were under construction and 4 agricultural houses were commenced at Bootle.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their unfailing interest and co-operation throughout the year.

I must also express my warm appreciation to all members of the Staff for their loyal help and support.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

K.J. THOMSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District in acres	...	90,911
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...	13,070
Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1950 according to Rate Books	...	3,886
Rateable Value	...	£60,984
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	£227

Full employment was maintained throughout the year reflecting a very satisfactory state in local industries.

Apart from agriculture, which is general throughout the area, the following industries are all centred in and around Millom.

- Iron and Steel Manufacture.
- Leather Manufacture.
- Iron Ore Mining.
- Children's Clothing Factory.
- Plastic Goods Factory.
- Nylon Stocking Factory.

In addition considerable numbers were employed in the Ship Yards at Barrow and at the Atomic Factory, Sellafield.

Some 50 men were also employed at Eskmoals Gun Range.

A small Boot and Shoe Factory closed down during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE DISTRICT.

<u>BIRTHS: -</u>				Male	Female	Total
<u>Live Births</u>	-	Legitimate	...	109	131	240
		Illegitimate	...	10	8	18
				—	—	—
		Total	...	119	139	258
				—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1000 of population				...	20.7	
<u>Still Births</u>	-	Legitimate	...	6	3	9
		Illegitimate	...	-	-	-
Rate per 1000 total births				...	33.7	

DEATHS: -

Deaths (all ages)	...	88	79	167
Death Rate per 1000 of population	...	12.1		
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	Nil		
Deaths from other Maternal causes	...	2		
Maternal Death Rate per 1000 births (live and still births)	...	7.4		

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1000 live births	...	66
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	66.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	55.5

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	...	17
Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	Nil

Table showing the Vital Statistics for England and Wales as
a whole and certain Groups in the County of Cumberland.

1950.

	Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
England and Wales.	15.8	11.6	29.8
Administrative County of Cumberland.	17.6	12.6	35
Urban Districts of Cumberland (including Boroughs of Workington and Whitehaven)	18	13.4	33
Rural Districts of Cumberland	17.4	12	37
Rural District of MILLOM.	20.7	12.7	65.9

DETAILS OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE IN WEEKS.					AGE IN MONTHS.					TOTAL DEATHS.
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	Total under 1 month	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Asphyxia (accidental).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Broncho Pneumonia.	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	4
Prematurity.	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Congenital Deformity (Heart).	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital Deformity (Spinal).	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Erythroblastosis Foetalis.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals.	9	2	-	-	11	2	-	2	-	2	17

Infantile Mortality.

The high Infantile Death Rate, which has already been mentioned, is very disappointing, especially in view of the low record figure obtained in 1949.

In 1950, a total of 17 infants died before reaching the age of twelve months, giving a rate of 66 per 1000 births, compared with the figure of 35 for the County of Cumberland, and 30 for England and Wales. Such a high figure requires some comment.

It will be noted from the accompanying table that 11 infants died within the first two weeks of life, 6 due to prematurity, 4 to congenital deformities and 1 to broncho pneumonia. Of the 6 due to prematurity, 3 were triplets who only survived a few hours, and 2 were twins who lived two days.

Of the 5 total deaths due to congenital deformities, 2 were due to heart conditions and 3 to severe defects of the spine. Certain congenital defects can be remedied by operation but this is only attempted, as a rule, if the baby survives a few months. Of the 5 cases mentioned, only one child survived long enough to undergo operation, but without success.

Broncho pneumonia accounted for a total of 4 deaths, 2 dying at home and 2 in hospital.

One of the remaining 2 deaths was accidental, due to inhalation of vomit. The other was due to Erythroblastosis Foetalis, a condition produced by the destruction of the red blood cells, causing extreme jaundice. The child was admitted to hospital for blood transfusion, but died there at the age of 5 weeks.

Of the 17 deaths, 8 occurred in hospital though only 4 were actually born in hospital.

Premature births are still the greatest single cause of death before the age of one month and the problem is one which requires the close cooperation of the general practitioners, the local health authority and the Regional Hospital Board.

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality Rate for Millom Rural District, compared with that of England and Wales, since 1938.

Year.	Population.	Total Deaths.	<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u>	
			MILLOM.	England and Wales.
1938	11,400	6	38.7	52.8
1939	11,320	9	50	50.6
1940	12,180	15	79.8	56.8
1941	12,950	13	61.9	60.0
1942	13,490	8	35.7	50.6
1943		11	51.4	49.1
1944	12,180	10	40.8	45.4
1945	11,860	11	51.8	46.0
1946	11,760	8	34.04	42.9
1947	11,930	13	49.4	41.4
1948	12,760	12	49.6	34
1949	12,670	6	25	32
1950	13,070	17	66	29.8

Maternal Mortality.

Two maternal deaths were recorded during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of 7.4 per 1000 births.

Both deaths took place in hospital and were due to Pulmonary Embolism following on Caesarean Section.

In 1949 one maternal death was recorded, this being the first since 1941.

Deaths from all causes.

Total deaths showed a slight decrease over the 1949 figure (167 against 172), giving a Death Rate of 12.1 per 1000. This figure compared with 12.6 for the County of Cumberland and 11.6 for England and Wales.

As in previous years, diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, including Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System (i.e. Cerebral Haemorrhage and Thrombosis) accounted for the greatest number of deaths - a total of 66 which represented nearly 40% of all deaths. This figure showed a definite increase from 1949 when the percentage was 35. It is interesting to record that, of the above 66 deaths, 52 occurred in people of the age of 65 years and over, and indeed 45 were 70 years and over.

In other words, one possible cause for the increase of these diseases, is the fact that people are now living longer and dying as a result of normal wear and tear of heart and vascular systems.

Malignant growths (Cancer) accounted for 17 deaths, equal to 10% of all deaths. In 1949, corresponding figures were 27 and 16%. While welcoming this reduction in the Millom Rural District area, it should be noted that over the country as a whole, Cancer deaths are tending to increase. Again this is partly connected with the increased expectation of life, e.g. 12 of the 17 deaths were 65 years of age and over.

Respiratory Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis, accounted for 9 deaths - one less than in 1949. With the advent of antibiotic and sulpha drugs, such deaths should decrease still further.

Under the heading of "Other defined and ill-defined diseases", a total of 41 deaths was recorded, of which 27 were certified as due to senility, all being 80 years of age and over.

The remaining figures showed little variation as compared with 1949.

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1950.

All causes.	M.	F.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	6	-	6
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	7	4	11
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	3	3
16. Diabetes	-	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	15	29
18. Coronary disease, angina	10	8	18
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	8	5	13
21. Other circulatory disease	1	2	3
22. Influenza	2	-	2
23. Pneumonia	2	1	3
24. Bronchitis	3	2	5
25. Other disease of respiratory system	-	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	2	2
31. Congenital malformations	3	2	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	24	41
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	4	2	6
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	88	79	167

AGE AT DEATH OF ALL CASES.

1950.

AGE GROUPS	Under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	65 to 70	Over 70	Total
MALES ...	9	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	2	3	7	5	5	12	40	88
FEMALES ..	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	8	3	6	50	79



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

These were provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, under the direction of Dr. J. Steven Faulds.

Water samples, bacteriological and chemical, were also submitted to Mr. Stock, County Analyst, Darlington.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Service remained the responsibility of the County Council. Millom Ambulance Committee, however, acted on behalf of the County for the day-to-day administration of the ambulance based at Millom. A new well equipped ambulance replaced the older vehicle during the year and has added greatly to the comfort of the patients.

Nursing in the Home.

The County Council was entirely responsible for all these services, including District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and Home Helps.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There was still only one County Council Clinic in the area, namely at 80, Lapstone Road, Millom.

Clinics are held as below.

School Clinic.	1st and 3rd Tuesdays.	9.30 - 12 noon.
Diphtheria		
Immunisation.	" " "	2 - 3 p.m.
Maternity and		
Child Welfare.	1st and 3rd Wednesdays.	9.30 - 12 noon.
Chest Clinic.	" " "	2 - 4 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hankoy, deals very fully with all such matters and will be found at the end of this report.

WATER SUPPLY.

I am again indebted to Mr. J. Leith Clark, the Water Engineer, for the following report.

(1) Whether the water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory.

	(a) In quality.	(b) In quantity.
Millom Town Supply (incl: Whicham).	Very good.	Good.
Bootle.	Very good	Good.
Northern Area: Devoke.	Not entirely satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
Wastwater.	Very Good.	Good.

(2) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water, and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply. If so, how many and the results obtained: the results of any chemical analyses.

During the year 13 bacteriological examinations were made.

	No. of samples	No. negative in 100 ml.	No. positive in 50 ml.	% negative in 100 ml.
Millom	2	2	Nil	100%
Bootle	3	3	Nil	100%
Devoke	3	2	1	67%
Wastwater	5	5	Nil	100%

During the year two chemical analyses were made.

1. Wastwater - Whitegate, Drigg.
2. Wastwater - Seascale.

	<u>Parts per 100,000</u>	
	<u>No. 1</u>	<u>No. 2</u>
Chlorine as chlorides	0.8250	0.8000
Nitrogen as nitrates	.1246	.0467
Ammonia	.0058	.0052
Albuminoid ammonia	.0046	.0026

(Contd)

	Parts per 100,000	
	<u>No. 1</u>	<u>No. 2</u>
Oxygen absorption	0.0278	0.0232
Injurious metals	None	None
Total solid matter dried @ 100°C.	2.5000	3.0000
pH value of sample	6.3	6.4
Temporary hardness	None	None
Permanent hardness	0.70	0.60
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	0	0
Appearance of sample in 2 ft. tube	Bright	Bright
Odour when heated to 50°C.	None	None

No. 1. Microscopical Examination. Satisfactory.

Observations. The sample is of a high order of organic purity, judged both by the results of the chemical analyses and the bacteriological examination, and it is of good and wholesome quality for human consumption.

No. 2. Microscopical Examination. Large greenish flocculent deposit consisting mainly of hydrated Ferric Oxide. No Ferrous Iron was present, and no algal growths nor micro-organisms.

Observations. The sample represents a supply which is entirely free from objectionable contamination, and the colour, described as "blue", is undoubtedly due to some salt of Iron which readily settles out on exposure to atmospheric conditions.

No possible objection could be taken to the supply as represented by this sample, provided that the Iron compound is removed, and this should not present any difficulty.

(3) Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and result of analyses.

Although the analyses of the water from the various supplies throughout the district, with the exception of Devoke supply, suggest that the risk of plumbo-solvency is negligible, the use of copper instead of lead piping for all cold water services is recommended.

(4) Action in respect of any form of contamination.

No contamination has been detected during the past

year, but where bacteriological examination showed presence of gross contamination, the gathering ground would be inspected to ascertain the probable cause, which in the case of Millom is generally found to be attributed to dead animals, particularly sheep, lying unburied on the fells. When a dead sheep is found the carcass is buried off the gathering ground and the area on which the carcass was found treated. The whole of the supplies are chlorinated, and the chlorine dosage is increased if necessary. The mains are periodically flushed.

Particulars of supplies.

<u>Supply.</u>	<u>Parishes supplied.</u>
Millom.	Millom: Millom Without: Whicham.
Bootle.	Bootle.
Northern Area:-	
Devoke.	Drigg and Carleton: Muncaster: Irton-with-Santon.
Wastwater.	Seascale.

(5) Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and the number of the population supplied from public mains
(a) direct to the houses.

	<u>Total</u>		<u>Supplied direct</u>		<u>Not supplied</u>	
	<u>Popu-</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Popu-</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Popu-</u>	<u>No. of</u>
	<u>lation</u>	<u>houses</u>	<u>lation</u>	<u>houses</u>	<u>lation</u>	<u>houses</u>
Millom	9,220	2,670	8,560	2,509	660	161
Bootle	710	220	659	208	51	12
Northern Area (incl. Ravenglass)	2,270	727	1,619	548	651	179
Eskdale	360	116	nil	nil	360	116
Waberthwaite	350	88	nil	nil	350	38
Ulpha	160	65	nil	nil	160	65
	13,070	3,886	10,838	3,265	2,232	621

OBSERVATIONS.Millom Supply.

During the twelve months, Lanthwaite Filter Station has worked satisfactorily.

Bootle Supply.

Generally throughout the year this supply was satisfactory, although early in the year it was necessary to resand the filter to improve filterwashing.

Northern Area - Devoke.

Throughout the year this supply has been reasonably satisfactory and there has been no case of serious pollution of the water. The chlorinating plant has been in continuous operation but this has only local part time attendance which is not entirely satisfactory.

This is considered the least reliable source, both as regards quality and quantity, due principally to its inaccessibility making routine inspection more difficult.

Northern Area -- Wastwater.

This supply continues to be very satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity. Due to the increased consumption on the new housing estate, some complaints of lack of pressure were received but this difficulty was overcome by arranging with the Ministry of Supply for increased pressure to be made available at the Drigg connection.

(Signed) J. Leith Clark.

About one sixth of the total population was not provided with a public water supply, the areas chiefly concerned being Ravenglass, Waberthwaite, Eskdale and Ulpha. In the case of the first two mentioned, there is a private piped supply to most houses but in recent years, those supplies have proved inadequate, especially during the summer months.

The position was discussed by the appropriate Committee during 1950 and certain proposals were examined. The time has now come, however, for more concrete action.

In the case of Eskdale, a scheme was submitted by the Water Engineer and accepted by the Council. Final consent to proceed with the scheme was not received until 1951.

Although various plans for a public supply to Ulpha were submitted, no action was taken on account of the high cost, and the fact that Ulpha will ultimately be supplied from the Barrow supply.

SCHOOLS.

All the schools in the area were inspected and sanitary defects reported to the Education Authority.

Generally, conditions were found to be satisfactory. The two Eskdale schools are the only ones without water carriage sanitation, but it is hoped this will be remedied within the next year or so by the completion of the Eskdale Water Scheme.

A certain amount of overcrowding occurred in Lapstone Road Infants' School and this was relieved by the use of an adjoining hall. There is, undoubtedly, a need for increased school accommodation in Millom.

The new school at Seascale, made necessary by the developments at Sellafeld and Seascale, was expected to be ready by the end of 1950, but this hope was not fulfilled. At the time of writing this report, however, it has been officially opened and occupied.

There were no school closures during the year on account of infectious diseases.

Nutrition of School Children.

The general condition of the children examined at routine medical inspections was satisfactory.

The table on the following page shows, in fact, an improved position as compared with previous years.

	A	B	C
Entrants	85	113	4
Intermediates	138	151	6
Leavers	143	72	6
Special Group - 13 year old	30	18	1
	<hr/> 396	<hr/> 354	<hr/> 17
Percentage 1947	29	68	3
" 1948	27	67	6
" 1949	34	61	5
" 1950	52	46	2

The following table gives the number of children who received school dinners and milk on a check day in October, 1950.

	No. on <u>Roll</u>	No. receiving <u>dinners</u>	No. receiving <u>milk</u>
Haverigg Boys'	68	50	69
Haverigg Girls' and Infants'	109	46	96
Lapstone Road Boys'	269	175	230
Lapstone Road Girls'	258	143	214
Lapstone Road Infants'	234	107	200
St. James' R.C.	161	91	139
Thwaites	47	25	40
Muncaster	35	31	31
Waberthwaite	74	65	67
Silecroft	33	25	25
Bootle Captain Shaw's	68	29	58
Bootle Hycemoor	47	30	45
Eskdale High	17	-	13
Eskdale Low	42	19	34
Irton	20	16	-
Drigg C. of E.	54	31	30
Seascale C. of E.	110	-	118
Millom Grammar	240	174	148

It will be noted that only Eskdale High and Seascale schools were without a meals service. In the case of Seascale, this has been remedied by the opening of the new school, complete with its own canteen.

SHELL FISH.

The Duddon Estuary Shell Fish Regulations, 1926, are still in force and it is recommended that they remain in force.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).
Arranged according to age groups.

1950.

DISEASE.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Total	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Whooping Cough	2	27	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	44	1	1
Measles	1	4	7	-	1	1	-	-	-	14	1	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	5	1	1
Pneumonia	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	7	1	1
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The table on the preceding page shows the number of cases notified during the year.

It will be observed that no deaths occurred from an infectious disease and only one case was removed to hospital.

Whooping Cough.

Forty four cases were notified, compared with 23 in 1949. No general scheme of protective inoculation has yet been started by the County Council but, as pointed out in the 1949 report, a number of children are inoculated by the private practitioners.

The Medical Research Council is still carrying out a carefully controlled trial of various Whooping Cough protective vaccines. One is hopeful, therefore, that a protective vaccine, equal in efficacy to that achieved in Diphtheria immunisation, will soon be available for Whooping Cough.

Measles.

A total of 14 cases was notified, against the very low figure of 3 in 1949.

Erysipelas.

Five cases, against 17 in 1949, were notified in 1950. Only one was of a serious nature but admission to hospital was not considered necessary.

Pneumonia.

Seven cases, spread fairly equally over all age groups, were notified. In 1949 there were 14 cases. The halving of the numbers suggests the use of penicillin and sulpha drugs in the early stages of respiratory infections, thus preventing the development of the more serious condition of pneumonia.

Scarlet Fever.

Only 2 cases were notified, both of a mild nature. Scarlet Fever has become a much less serious disease in recent years.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

The only case occurring in the area was that of a female child aged 9 years. After consultation with the general practitioner, she was admitted to Crozier Lodge with slight weakness of the right thigh muscles. The diagnosis was confirmed and after six weeks in hospital, she was discharged fully recovered.

Dysentery.

The one notified case of this condition was not confirmed by bacteriological examination.

Smallpox.

No cases or contacts of this disease occurred in the area during 1950.

Vaccination. By the repeal of the Vaccination Acts in 1948, vaccination, which was previously more or less compulsory, ceased to be so. Prior to 1948 about 40% of children in this country were being vaccinated during the first year of life. The latest available figures show that the proportion is now only about 25%. Should this tendency continue, we, as a nation, will become less protected, and smallpox outbreaks could occur with greater frequency and severity. It is quite possible for a traveller from India to arrive here already infected but showing no evidence of the disease for ten days or so. From one such case, a widespread epidemic could develop.

In March, 1950, an outbreak occurred in Glasgow with all the possibilities of a widespread epidemic. At this time many Glasgow workers were employed at Sellafield and certain precautions were deemed necessary. Vaccination was offered to all members of the Health and Water Departments of the Council, and it is satisfactory to report that I vaccinated the entire staffs. In addition, many members of the public were vaccinated by private practitioners.

Diphtheria.

No case was notified during 1950, further proof surely of the importance of maintaining the Diphtheria Immunisation campaign.

From the table following it will be noted that there has been only one case of diphtheria in the area

since 1946 and no deaths since 1936.

Protection of large numbers of children against diphtheria by immunisation has been one of the most outstanding preventive measures ever employed. For example in 1941 there were 50,693 verified notifications of diphtheria in England and Wales with 2,315 deaths of children aged 1 to 14 years, whereas in 1950 there were only 980 confirmed notifications with 49 deaths at all ages.

Diphtheria immunisations carried out in the area in 1950 showed a drop in numbers, in common with the rest of the country. A total of 194 children under 5 years of age and 28 over 5 years received primary inoculations. In addition 292 received booster or reinforcing injections.

Diphtheria Notifications in Millom R.D.

Year.	Number notified.	Admitted to hospital.	Deaths.
1934	17	17	1
1935	22	22	2
1936	19	19	1
1937	10	9	-
1938	14	14	-
1939	9	9	-
1940	3	3	-
1941	8	8	-
1942	6	6	-
1943	-	-	-
1944	8	8	-
1945	2	2	-
1946	10	10	-
1947	-	-	-
1948	1	1	-
1949	-	-	-
1950	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of cases notified and of the deaths during 1950.

AGE.	New cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	2	2	1	4	1	-	-	-
25 - 35	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Totals	6	3	2	5	6	-	-	-

One of the 6 deaths recorded (a man over 65 years) was not a notified case belonging to this area, and was in fact unknown until registration of the death was received.

The total number of notifications received (16) showed an increase as compared with 1949, when the figure was 7, with 4 deaths.

The death rate of Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the area worked out at 0.45 per 1000 of the population, compared with 0.32 for England and Wales. In 1949 the figure of 0.24 for the area was exceptionally low.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1950 was:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary	28	25	53
Non-pulmonary	7	12	19

The total shows an increase of 5 over the 1949 figures.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

	M/c line No. (2)	No. on Reg. (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
Premises (1)						
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	28	81	10	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	73	174	4	-	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises).	3	23	168	2	-	3
Total.		124	423	16	-	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)		M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	---Referred--- To H.M. By H.M. Inspector (5) (6)			
Wants of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3) Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient (b) unsuitable or defective (c) not separate for sexes Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	4	4	-	-	-	4
	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
	6	1	1	-	-	-	6
	7	2	2	-	-	-	7
	8	4	4	-	-	-	8
	9	2	2	-	-	-	9
	10	3	2	-	-	-	10
	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
	60	16	15	-	-	-	60
Total		16	15	-	-	-	60

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1950.

To Dr. K.J. Thomson,
Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have much pleasure in presenting herewith my 15th Annual Report of the work carried out by my Department for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

I can once again report that fairly satisfactory progress has been maintained throughout the year in the general routine work of inspections under the Housing and the Public Health Acts. Repairs to, and the maintenance of, dwellings have been under constant supervision, and no undue difficulty has been experienced at any time in having essential works attended to.

Apart from works of repair which have been requested by the Department, many other improvements have been carried out by owners, and this has materially assisted in keeping up the standard of housing accommodation.

Restrictions are still with us as far as Civil Building is concerned and the following details of licences which have been issued during the year relating to dwelling houses and other premises, will show that many owners are still anxious to maintain a reasonable standard of their premises.

Of the 25 licences considered by the Health Committee and the Housing and Planning Committee, 21 were connected with dwelling houses and 4 with other premises. In 19 other instances these were referred to other Ministerial Departments.

The sub-standard properties in the various parts of the area are still giving cause for some concern. In these days of high cost for both labour and materials, and low rentals received, it is economically impossible for many owners to comply with existing regulations in maintaining such properties in a reasonable state of repair. These conditions are eventually resulting in rapid

deterioration, and in many circumstances I am afraid that it will be necessary for these matters to be given serious consideration by the Housing Committee.

The provision of new houses by the Council is a matter which still gives cause for much consideration. The number of applicants for housing accommodation has still not abated. On the contrary it is very much on the increase.

Overcrowding.

There were 19 cases of overcrowding relieved during the year which concerned 115 persons. New cases discovered total 17.

Housing Schemes - Settle Street and Salthouse Road Site.

The position at the end of the year in respect of the above scheme was as follows.

The Contract was entered into for the erection of 56 three-bedroom type houses. By the end of the year 52 houses were under construction.

Queen's Park Extension. 36 Houses.

This new estate which is part of the larger Queen's Park Estate upon which some 66 houses were erected during the war years, is owned by the North Eastern Housing Association. During the year contracts were entered into by this Association for the construction of roads and sewers, and the erection of 12 two-bedroom type houses and 24 three-bedroom type houses.

Work on this contract was commenced on 24th August, 1949, and by the end of 1950 24 dwellings were erected and tenanted.

Agricultural Houses - Bootle.

Work had commenced on the 4 houses required for the area.

Seascale.

There were a considerable number of dwelling houses erected in this area during the year. These houses were for the use of personnel of the Ministry Department

and have, therefore, no direct effect on the Council's housing programme.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows:-

Houses - Public Health Acts	548
Houses - Housing Acts	341
New Buildings - Inspections	317
Complaints investigated	250
Factories Act	423
Infectious Disease Cases	3
Food and Drugs Act	260
Rats and Mice Act	42
Petroleum Acts	159
Shops Acts	76
Interviews with Owners, etc.	385
Revisits to Property Under Notice	518
Bakehouses	74
Fried Fish Shops	46
Public Abattoir	438
Butchers Shops	61
Ice Cream Premises	70
Houses Disinfected	4
Houses Disinfested	2
Cinemas and Public Halls	59
Licensed Premises	43
Sewage Disposal Works	90
Samples - Water Supplies	-
Cafes and Restaurants	40
Miscellaneous	253
Samples Sewage Effluent	-
Schools	15
Sampling Sites	20
Interviews - Housing Tenancies	701
Informal Notices served - P.H.A.	97
" " " H.A.	39
Statutory Notices served - P.H.A.	1
" " " H.A.	4

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Dwelling Houses.

Repaired or made fit	125
Provided with Damp Proof Course	22
Roofs repaired	137
Floors repaired, ventilated, etc.	117

Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	326
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.	79
Sash cords renewed	76
Food stores provided, repaired, etc.	16
Hand rails provided to stairs	13
Stairs repaired	25
Ventilation provided to bedrooms	15
Skirting board provided or repaired	142
Doors repaired, rehung and renewed	67
Firegrates repaired, reset or renewed	50
Chimneys or chimney stacks repaired	36
New sinks provided and fixed	49
Sink wastes repaired or renewed	51
Water supply provided inside houses	23
Water supply repaired or renewed	28
Wash coppers repaired or provided	7
Hot and cold water services provided	35
Copper firesets repaired or renewed	2
Baths provided/renewed	35
Lavatory basins provided/renewed	43
External walls pointed	7
Ovens repaired or renewed	30
External walls cemented	15
Eaves gutters and R.W.P. renewed	51
Dangerous walls repaired	32
Yards and passages paved and drained	9
Yard paving repaired	48
Gas supplies	1
<u>Drains, Water Closets and Ashes Accommodation:-</u>	
Obstructed drains cleansed	58
Obstructed W.C.s cleansed	62
Yard gullies provided and connected to drains	87
Vent pipes provided/renewed	41
Drains repaired or reconstructed	57
Drains tested	82
Inspection chambers provided	75
Inspection chamber covers renewed	13
W.C. basins provided/renewed	67
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	69
Septic tanks provided	18
Closet structures repaired	46
Ashpits abolished	4
Dustbins provided	187
<u>Other Nuisances:-</u>	
Animals improperly kept	1
Rats and mice	8
Accumulation of refuse	10

(1) Inspections of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 889
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 1407
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932. 341
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 341
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 141

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal actions by the Local Authority or their Officers. 197

(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs. 4
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:
- (a) By owners -
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 1
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service

of formal notices:

- (a) By owners -
- (b) By Local Authority
in default of owners -

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11, and 13, of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. -
- (a) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. -

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit. -

(4) Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

- (a) (1) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year. 10
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein. 16
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein. 89
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. 17
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. 19
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases. 115
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. -
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. -

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The number of new houses throughout the area is now beginning to increase the work in this Department. If the northern area of the district continues to extend at its present rate a scheme will have to be formulated whereby one vehicle together with driver and helper will have to be based on a Depot, so that the Parishes north of

Bootle can be worked independently of the southern area. This has already been discussed in Committee and was favourably considered. It is necessary however, for further details to be worked out before this can be put into operation.

The number of Dustbins disposed of by the Department during the year was 102.

<u>Millom</u>	Bins emptied	130,078
	Pits	224
<u>Millom Without</u>	Bins	12,174
	Pits	734
<u>Whicham</u>	Bins	4,993
	Pits	13
<u>Bootle</u>	Bins	7,975
	Pits	3
<u>Waberthwaite</u>	Bins	4,905
<u>Muncaster</u>	Bins	6,906
<u>Drigg</u>	Bins	9,071
<u>Seascale</u>	Bins	29,538
<u>Eskdale</u>	Bins	6,369
<u>Irton with Santon</u>	Bins	1,870
<u>Ulpha</u>	Bins	1,738

The following are particulars of the loads removed:-

	Loads	Weight Tons. Cwts.
Dennis 1	967	2628 7
Dennis 2	532	1127 0
Karrier 1	159	328 0
Karrier 2	560	1209 10

SALVAGE.

Salvage collection during the year did not maintain the success of previous years. People generally got tired of being salvage conscious, although continual reminders were put forward that this material was still required and would be collected by the Council. This apathy of the public resulted in a considerable drop in the tonnage of materials collected and also a decided drop in revenue. I would point out, however, that during the months of January to September there was a reduction in the price paid for paper received at the mills.

Particulars of the materials collected and disposed of are as follows:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Baled tins	4	17	2
Rags		11	3
Black scrap	6	19	-
Sacking	-	-	-
Waste paper	45	12	1
	58	0	2
Total - 1949	75	3	1

Total revenue 1949 - £388. 7. 6.
 " " 1950 - £283. 3.10.

Note: Price of paper reduced in January - September.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There is no material change to be reported on the slaughtering arrangements at the Abattoir, Nelson Street, Millom. The premises were again satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. Any minor repairs or improvements found necessary were immediately given attention. The inspections made were carried out in accordance with the instructions MO62/Foods.

The following is a summary of the inspections made, together with the result of the examination of the carcasses:-

Particulars	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Calves
Number killed (if known).	494	231	3419	422	19
Number inspected.	494	231	3419	408	19
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis:-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	1	2	25	-	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	172	108	46	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	35.02%	47.62%	2.08%	1.47%	15.78%
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	3	14	-	2	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	48	75	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	10.32%	38.53%	-	0.49%	5.26%

Remarks on Meat Condemned.

(1) Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

(a) Whole Carcasses.

1 Cattle.
2 Cows.
46 Sheep.
3 Calves.

(b) Portions or Organs of Carcasses.

270 Bovine Livers.
 9 Bovine Livers (portions).
 9 Bovine Udders.
 2 Bovine Heart.
 12 Portions Beef.
 36 Sheep Livers.
 3 Portions Mutton.
 1 Sheep Offal.
 3 Portions Pig.
 1 Pig Pluck.
 2 Pig Offal.

Weight 7,500 lbs.

(2) Tuberculosis only.(a) Whole Carcasses.

3 Cattle Carcasses.
 14 Cow Carcasses.
 1 Calf Carcase.
 2 Pig Carcasses.

(b) Portions of Organs of Carcasses.

122 Bovine Lungs.
 8 Bovine Livers.
 30 Bovine Heads and Tongues.
 4 Bovine Fats.
 4 Bovine Offal.
 1 Bovine Tripe.
 1 Bovine Udder.
 1 Portion of Beef.

Weight 13,261 lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned during 1950	-	20,761 lbs.
" " " " " 1949	-	20,063 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Routine inspections under this Act total 260.

Details of the foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption are here set out.

2 stone Whiting.
 2 stone Codfish.
 6 tins Salmon.
 102 tins Sardines
 4 tins Tunny Fish
 6 tins Crayfish

52 lbs. Beef Sausage.
 2 tins Stewed Steak.
 52 tins Luncheon Meat.
 8 tins Veal and Ham Loaf.
 4 tins Minced Beef.
 2 tins Steak Pudding.

4 tins Fish Paste.	2 tins Scotch Broth.
78 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Corned Beef.	3 tins Vegetable Soup.
13 tins Beef Loaf.	6 tins Tomato Soup.
77 lbs. Imported Beef.	265 packets Pudding Mixture.
183 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Bacon.	2 packets Dessert Powder.
35 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Ham.	2 packets Cornflour.
3 tins Cooked Ham.	6 packets Cornflakes.
464 lbs. Pork Sausage.	1 packets Shredded Wheat.
3 packets Breakfast Cats.	1 tin Apricots.
3 packets Pastry Mixture.	2 tins Peaches.
20 lbs. Soya Flour.	2 tins Apple Puree.
3 lbs. Butter.	4 tins Oranges.
26 tins Peas.	2 tins Tomatoes.
15 tins Carrots.	6 tins Tomato Juice.
4 tins Parsnips.	2 tins Orange Juice.
2 tins Beans.	60 tins Cherry and Plum Jam.
38 jars Pickles.	1 tin Plum Jam.
38 jars Mayonnaise.	1 tin Raspberry Jam.
2 jars Salad Cream.	64 tins Marmalade.
2 tins Red Cherries.	10 tins Condensed Sweetened Milk.
6 tins Rhubarb.	296 tins Evaporated Milk.
35 tins Plums.	5 tins Skimmed Milk.

The following are further details of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in the Rural District, by Officers of the County Council to whom I am indebted for same.

	<u>Total Taken.</u>	<u>Genuine.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Milk	30	21	9
Other Samples	12	12	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	42	33	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

In addition, 12 "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken in connection with the unsatisfactory milk samples.

Particulars of Unsatisfactory Samples.

1 classed as "doubtful" by Analyst.
6 adulterated by the addition of water.
2 deficient in fat.

Action taken on Unsatisfactory Samples.

Prosecutions - 3.

(Three convictions were recorded, the fines being £29, £10 and £6.2.0., including costs).

Cautions - 1.

The 12 non-milk samples consisted of:-

Beef Sausages	4	Vinegar	1
Whisky	2	Ground Ginger	1
Butter	1	Pastry Mix	1
Peanut Butter	1	Marolyn Milk Plus	1

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Regular inspections of these premises were made throughout the year and at no time was there any necessity to call the attention of the persons responsible for the premises to any infringement of the Regulations.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS.

Periodical inspections of premises dealing with Petroleum Spirit were made throughout the year and the Regulations appertaining thereto were found to be fully complied with in each instance. The number on the Register was 41.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

10 Short Hopper W.C.s have been replaced by Wash-down Pedestal W.C.s. Gradually the obsolete Short Hopper W.C. is being dispensed with and replaced with the modern type. This change is all for the best, and nuisance is definitely being cut down to a minimum.

Conversion from earth closets to the water carriage system has been carried out in 6 instances at Stubble Green, Drigg. (See report under Sewage Disposal).

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.MILLOM.

Blockages occurred on the main sewers at several points during the year, but these were only of a minor character. A more serious blockage occurred on one of the main sewers in Lord Street and difficulty has been

experienced in the past with this same length of sewer. In order to provide easy access to the same, an additional manhole was constructed.

50 yards of 9" sewer were laid at Pannatt Hill, Millom. This was an extension to the existing sewer which was put down in this area several years ago. The length of new sewer now laid, which would be available for new building projects in this particular area, is now 235 yards.

A subsidence which occurred on the 18" main trunk sewer on the Foreshore at Haverigg, and which was reported in the 1949 Report, was more serious than was at first anticipated. Before this work was completed it was necessary to dispense with a large proportion of the old sewer and relay approximately 200 yards of new sewer. This was completed during the year and the sewer is now operating satisfactorily. In the not too distant future it will be necessary for consideration to be given to the overhauling and replanning of all the main sewers in the Haverigg area.

BOOTLE.

The Sewage Disposal Works have been operating satisfactorily throughout the year. Repairs have been necessary but these have been of a minor character.

RAVENGLASS.

Subsidence of the road on the line of the new sewer occurred in Main Street. Repairs to same were carried out immediately. Repairs were also carried out to one of the outfalls on the Foreshore which had been damaged during high tides. It was found necessary to relay some 20 yards of 9" sewer.

ESKDALE.

The erection of new public conveniences and sewage disposal plant has been carried out and completed at Dalegarth Station.

New and improved sanitary arrangements have been provided at the Outward Bound Mountain School.

DRIGG.

The provision of new drainage arrangements, together with the installation of water lavatories and provision of septic tank and filter bed, has been carried

out to a combined group of 6 dwelling houses at Stubble Green. Since completion the scheme has operated very satisfactorily.

This work was subject to a grant by this Authority.

SEASCALE.

The outfall sewer on the Foreshore was damaged during high tides and necessitated major repairs.

A further extension of new sewers has been carried out in conjunction with the new housing estate for the Ministry of Works.

The following private works of sewage disposal schemes by the provision of septic tanks, new drainage arrangements and conversion from earth closets to the water carriage system, have been carried out.

Parish of Millom Without	6
" " Drigg	1
" " Eskdale	3
" " Bootle	4
" " Wabberthwaite	1
" " Seascale	2
" " Whicham	3
" " Ulpha	2

SCHOOLS.

Regular inspections have been made of the schools throughout the area. Report was made to the County Authorities on the demolition of the general structure of the building in Millom used for the domestic classes, the walls of which are considered dangerous.

The condition of the boundary wall at the Holborn Hill School, Millom, was reported upon to the County Authorities.

CAMPING SITES.

Brickfield, Silecroft.

Inspections have been made at frequent intervals of this camping site, which was generally kept in a fairly

satisfactory condition. The fact must not be overlooked, however, that present conditions could be considerably improved upon.

Saltcoats, Holmrook.

This site was maintained in satisfactory order throughout the year, and at no time was there any necessity to call the attention of the owner to any irregularity.

I beg to offer my thanks to the various committees, and yourself, for the assistance which has been given during the past year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. HANKEY.

Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector.

